

Executive Members for Health & Wellbeing 6 June 2019

Decision to be taken on or after 14 June 2019

Key Decision [Yes/No] Ward(s) Affected: All

Adur Community Grants
Allocation of Funds for 2019/20
Round One

Report by the Director for Communities

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report requests the Executive Members for Health and Wellbeing to consider the allocation of the 2019/20 Adur Community Grants Budget.
- 1.2 This is the first round of grants the deadline for applications was 6th May 2019. There were four new applications received, totalling £6,280 and one application carried forward from 2018/19 of £1,350.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing is recommended to approve the funding allocations as set out in section 4 of the report.

3. Context

- 3.1. Adur has a vibrant and diverse community and voluntary sector; hundreds of charities and groups help Adur residents to prosper, thrive, be healthy and happy. The majority of these groups are running on no income and hugely dependent on the dedication, passion and time of fantastic volunteers. The aim of Adur Community Grants is to provide financial and non-monetary support to such groups, enabling them to try something new or continue a much-needed service locally.
- 3.2. Adur Community Grants have been around for over ten years and have given over of £740,000 to around 230 projects. In April 2017, the criteria for Adur Community Grants was reviewed and realigned to ensure that it met both the strategic priorities of the Council in 'Platforms for our Places' and aims of the Communities and Wellbeing Team as evidenced in the 'Intelligence & Evidence Framework'.
- 3.3. There is no legal duty or obligation for the Council to provide financial, or other support to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE). Adur Council highly values this sector and is proud to still be able to offer Community Grants. Additionally, the Council also contracts VCSEs to deliver specific projects or services, and offers discretionary rate relief and subsidised rents to groups.
- 3.4. Adur Community Grants now includes the income from Textile Recycling in Adur which previously was distributed to local charities by Adur District Council's Chair. Wider work is ongoing to increase the income from this stream and an additional bin has recently been added to Eastbrook Manor Community Centre car-park.
- 3.5. <u>Community Works</u>, the infrastructure support organisation who supports locally VCSEs continues to play a role in supporting groups particularly in fundraising and recommended the fund to a few of the groups.

4. Issues for consideration

4.1. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for a summary of the groups requesting funding and links to their websites providing additional information.

Application one	South Downs Film Makers	
Amount requested	£500.00	
Officer recommendation	Not fund	
Commentary	This project does not clearly fit into the grant priorities of encouraging healthier lifestyles, focus on young adults, support for older residents or vulnerable residents.	

Application two	Vida Active Club CIC	
Amount requested	£4,810	
Officer recommendation	Part-fund £2,000	
Commentary	This social enterprise is working in an area of deprivation and helping people to lead healthy lifestyles. The sessions are already well-attended and people used to paying, therefore, part-funding is suggested to reduce the costs for local residents.	

Application three	Wickers Leadership Academy	
Amount requested	£700	
Officer recommendation	Fund	
Commentary	This project provides sustainability for the club and upskills local young people. It falls into the priorities of encouraging healthy lifestyles and maintaining focus on younger people.	

Application four	Northbourne Patients Group	
Amount requested	£270	
Officer recommendation	Fund	
Commentary	This meets one of the grants priorities around encouraging healthy lifestyles. It is recommended that this group also raise awareness of Going Local as a wider offer from this GP practice and the team can provide further details on this.	

Deferred entry 1 from 2018/19	The Daisy Chain Project	
Amount requested	£1,350	
Officer recommendation	Fund	
Commentary	Since the last round of grants, the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing and Council Officers have met with this group and were really impressed with their project. They have since received over £55,000 from the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and therefore amended their request for funding to £1,350 to help cover the costs of decorating their new premises in Worthing, making it comfortable for people accessing the service. Although based in Worthing, this is a Sussex-wide project and will therefore support people in Adur.	

Unclaimed grant from 2018/19	Angling Sussex Marine Region	
Amount granted	£1,000	
Officer recommendation	This group didn't claim their grant from Round One in 2018/19. The events went ahead and they were able to fund themselves. They will deliver the same in 2019. This amount was carried forward and it's suggested, because allocated, that this is used to add to the income for the WHAT project in the meantime and that the organisation is invited to re-apply in the next round for 2019 and in line with the criteria set last time.	

5. Engagement and Communication

- 5.1. The completed application forms were initially reviewed by the Communities and Third Sector Lead against the priorities and using local knowledge and experience. They were then shared with colleagues in the Communities and Wellbeing Team for feedback. In some instances, some advice was sought from Community Works, the Council's contracted Infrastructure Support Organisation. Additionally, there is a summary of grant funding that partners update, and this was referred to check for double-funding and to see what groups may have received in total over the last few years.
- 5.2. The engagement and communication with groups interested and applying for the grants has been open and transparent. All information is clear and kept up to date on the Councils' website and communication is maintained through the process with groups mainly via email but also by phone.
- 5.3. Adur Community Grants were advertised on the Councils' website, on social media, in local press, local networks, via elected Members and through Community Works and all their communication channels.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The total budget available for Adur Community Grants at the start of the financial year is £40,000. This will be increased by income from the textile recycling banks during the year but the amount for April is not yet known.
- 6.2. If the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing agrees the recommendations, this would total £4,320 as follows:

	£
Vida Active Club CIC	2,000
Wickers Leadership Academy	700
Northbourne Patients Group	270
The Daisy Chain Project	1,350
Total recommended for approval	4,320

6.3. This would leave a remaining budget of £35,680 plus any textile recycling income to allocate to future funding bids.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 provides that if Council is considering expenditure for which there is no other statutory power then a Local Authority may incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of their inhabitants. The Council must ensure that the direct benefit accruing to its area or residents is commensurate with the expenditure incurred.
- 7.2. There is no legal obligation on the Council to provide financial or other assistance to the voluntary and community sector. However, the Council recognise the vital part played by voluntary groups in the life of the District. The Council does have the power to provide financial assistance to the sector under Section 1 Localism Act 2011 which provides that the Council have the power to do anything that individuals generally may do, providing no other legislation exists to prevent it.
- 7.3. Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
- 7.4. A grant agreement will be entered into by each successful group, with the Council, before any money is released.

Background Papers

Adur Community Grants <u>Priorities and Criteria</u> <u>Platforms for our Places</u>

Communities and Wellbeing Team's Evidence and Intelligence Framework

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

Sustainability has been considered and no issues identified. In terms of a risk assessment and ensuring groups are operating in a safe way, successful groups sign a contract before the money is released. This is the contract they return:

- 1. No other funding has already been obtained to deliver this specific project.
- 2. The grant will only be used for the project described on the application form and subject to the stipulated conditions. Any further changes must be agreed by Adur District Council (ADC) before proceeding.
- 3. The project will start within six months of receipt of the grant and any unused money will be returned to ADC.
- 4. We will comply with all laws regulating the way we operate, the activities we undertake, the staff we employ and the goods we buy.
- 5. We have a **Safeguarding Policy** and relevant **Insurance** to carry out the project and will send copies of these to ADC. We will ensure that staff and volunteers have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check if required.
- 6. We will act in a fair and open manner and without discrimination at all times.
- 7. We understand that the grant is made inclusive of VAT.
- 8. We accept that ADC may need to share information about the grant under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. ADC also has the right to publicise the grant and related project as they see fit. We will acknowledge ADC as a funder and use ADCs logo if appropriate.
- 9. ADC has the right to withdraw the grant at any time. For example, if the conditions or detail in the application form aren't met, if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.
- 10. We will provide an evaluation within one month of the project end date.

1. Economic

Adur Community Grants have been re-aligned to the Council's priorities under Platforms for our Places and the Communities and Wellbeing Team's Intelligence and Evidence Framework, and plays a part in helping the area reach its economic potential by support the VCSEs.

2. Social

2.1. Social Value

Funding these groups has a big social impact, often helping to reach the hardest or most vulnerable residents.

2.2 Equality Issues

In the funding criteria, it is stipulated that no group will discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no issues identified.

4. Governance

Successfully funded organisations will be expected to self-govern but through the contract that must be signed before the funds are released, the Council protects itself by asking groups to have insurance, safeguarding policies and the ability to withdraw the grant if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.

2018/19 Round three - projects applying for funding:

1. Application one - Southdowns Film Makers

This group are requesting £500 towards the costs of equipment, editing and travel expenses for the film crew to prepare a video about the 'changing face of Southwick.' The total project cost is £1,000.

2. Application two - Vida Active Club CIC

This organisation would like funding to provide two weekly dedicated health and fitness sessions for residents over 60 at Eastbrook Manor. This would enable the course to run free of charge for these local residents. Vida Active Club are requesting £4,810.

3. Application three - Wickers Leadership Academy

Wickers are requesting £700 to pay the judging course fee for 14 young adults. This will enable them to judge at competitions both locally and within the south east region.

4. Application four - Northbourne Patients Group

This voluntary group are requesting £270 towards the £350 costs associated with running an awareness event. The grant would pay for publicity, refreshments and stationary. The event, on the 6th July, will mainly raise awareness of exercise and healthy eating, with support from physiotherapists.

5. Application five - The Daisy Chain Project

The Daisy Chain Project are requesting £1,350 to pay for lighting, safety checks, paint, a sofa and kitchen equipment for their new premises in Worthing. Daisy Chain provide pro-bono legal advice to men and women experiencing, or fleeing, domestic abuse.
